SUBJECTS.

Dewan's reply.—The memorial presented by the ryots of the Vaikam Taluk is now under the consideration of Government. The report of the Settlement Dewan Peishkar has been received and will be disposed of in due course. The Peishkar, however, says that the rates are moderate and fair, and that the mistake, if any, has been in unduly lowering the rates. As regards the allegation that the *tharams* have been altered since the block division, it is observed that the rates fixed by the subordinate officers of the Settlement department are always subject to revision by the superior officers of that department. I mention all these circumstances so that you may know where the matter stands. But Government have not yet passed final orders on the memorial. They will give it due consideration and dispose of it.

ETTUMANUR TALUK.

165. *Protection of lands against flood.*

Mr. Itti Avira Punnoose urged that steps be taken to protect lands near Valianapuzha, Kaipuzha and other places, against damage by floods.

Dewan's reply.—From enquiry, we find that a substantial bund will cost about half a lakh of rupees. There is, therefore, no chance of this being done. The best thing is to keep the ordinary earthen bunds and maintain them properly year after year.

166. *Hospital and Vaidyasalas.*

The member also asked for a hospital at Ettumanur and Vaidyasalas in the provertis.

Dewan's reply.—The hospital at Kottayam is only 7 miles from Ettumanur. A hospital at Ettumanur is not therefore considered necessary. As regards Vaidyasalas, it is not possible to open one in each proverti as suggested by the member.

Mr. R. Narayana Pillai brought forward some grievances regarding settlement; and the Dewan said that the memorandum given by the member will be perused and orders passed.

KOTTAYAM TALUK.

167. *Aruthootty canal.*

Mr. C. J. Kurien spoke of the necessity for widening the Aruthootty canal.

Dewan's reply.—A revised estimate for improving this canal has been called for from the Public Works department, as it was discovered that the original estimate required revision. The revised estimate when received will be considered and disposed of.

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